

DOUBLE F MUSIC PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS



A MUSICAL BY FERGUS FORAN





Creator's Note

Thank you for taking the time to join us tonight to see Most Peculiar Dreams. The show examines how chance encounters and small interventions can influence a person's fate. The story was born out of my fascination with how

unlikely it is that the human race exists at all in our unfathomably vast universe. I am grateful for the fact that since 2018 one hundred and seven people have been involved in the development and performance of Most Peculiar Dreams, each bringing their own unique talent to bear on the production. Over the last four years it has been my great privilege to work with my co-producers Martin O'Leary and Juliet Hill. Their involvement has been central to our success. We have had many milestones during the development process. A highlight for me was the release of our two EPs and soundtrack album. We have a growing army of fans and are heading towards a total of one million streams on Spotify. Most Peculiar Dreams has been privately funded since its inception. We are now actively seeking sponsorship and investment to bring our production to a global audience. I am thankful for your support and for the opportunity to present my original work to you. I hope you enjoy the show. Fergus Foran.



Director's Note

We are proud to present 'Most Peculiar Dreams', and to offer a warm welcome to you, the audience, to the Helix this July. They say it takes a village to raise a child, I think the same can be said for the birth of a new musical. In the case of

'Most Peculiar Dreams', this refers not only to the hard work, dedication and talent of the current cast and crew, but to all involved in last year's production in the Helix, the 2022 regional tour, and the countless workshop casts since 2017. Without the contributions of all these talented individuals, this would be a very different show. My journey with 'Most Peculiar Dreams' commenced back in 2019, when I played the role of Grace Donnelly during two weekends of workshops in the Keadeen hotel in Newbridge. Listening to 'Poetry in Motion' for the first time, I was truly excited by the project, and knew the development of this original musical was something I wanted to be a part of. From there, I joined the 2022 touring cast in the role of Henrietta Harmon, before accepting the position of director for the 2023 production in the Helix, and again in 2024. During this time the show has gone from strength to strength, each show building upon the success of the last.

To have been granted the opportunity to direct what I believe to be such a promising piece of original musical theatre, and to work alongside such a passionate team is something I am extremely grateful for. I look forward to presenting 'Most Peculiar Dreams' in its current iteration alongside Fergus, Ailbhe, Conor, Lily Kate, Connie, and all the creatives and musicians involved both onstage and behind the scenes. Thank you for supporting the development of this musical. I hope you enjoy the show.

Synopsis

The main characters of Most Peculiar dreams are introduced at the start of the Show by the Fate characters. Shawn Donnelly Jnr is a young man in a hurry drawn to the glitz and glamour of the New York Club scene. He is supported by the loving and somewhat indulgent Donnelly family, and his childhood friend Mary Margaret McCarthy who has a long-term crush on him.

He leaves home taking his college fund and leaving a trail of chaos behind. On the mean streets of New York, he encounters the fates and through misadventure is pointed towards the Sycamore club, where his idol the lovely Henrietta Harmon presides as the resident singer. The Sycamore club controlled by the seedy Bobby Collier is flashy and undeniably alluring, but conceals a dark underbelly. Here Shawn is offered fame, fortune and love, but these he finds come with a price.





Joe Jennings Shawn Donnelly Jr.

Joe Jennings is a Dublin-based performer returning for the second time as Shawn Donnelly Junior. He has performed alongside the National Symphony Orchestra, Clannad on RTÉ, and U2's The Edge in the Sistine Chapel as part of a small vocal ensemble.

For the last two years he has also played the role of Prince Harold and Bruno in the Civic Theatre's Pantomine. His musical theatre credits include Hanschen in *Spring Awakening* (Smock Alley Theatre), Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors*, and Paul in *A Chorus Line* (Maynooth University Musical Society).



Juliet Hill Henrietta Harmon

Juliet is a Dublin based actor and singer. Acting credits include; Mairead in *Cailíní* (Lyric Theatre Belfast, 2024) (Samuel Beckett Theatre, 2023), Chris Hargenson in *Carrie the Musical* (O'Reilly Theatre, 2024), Henrietta Harmon in *Most Peculiar Dreams* (The Helix, 2023) (Regional Tour, 2022), Messalina in *Messalina My Love*

(DU Players, 2021), King Lear, in *King Lear* (30 minute Shakespeare Festival, DLR Mill Theatre, 2020), The Cat in the Hat in *Seussical* (C.M.W.S, 2019), Bridget in *Translations* (Amharclann Ghaoth Dobhair, 2019), Laurie in *Asylum* (Gaiety School of Acting, 2019), Little Red Riding Hood in *Into the Woods* (C.M.W.S, 2018), The Artful Dodger in *Oliver!* (C.M.W.S, 2017). Juliet recently made her film debut as Lily in the award winning short film *Brigid and the Wolves*. She has also provided lead vocals for the concept album *The Cloak* in 2023, a project produced by Padraig J Dunne in association with Double F Music Productions. Juliet is a featured artist on the *Most Peculiar Dreams* Soundtrack Album 2022. She is a vocalist for the Trinity Orchestra with whom she has sung solo as the opening act for Sir Rod Stewart and at Forbidden Fruit festival. She looks forward to performing with the orchestra again later this Summer at All Together Now festival.



Aoibh Tully Mary Margaret

Aoibh Tully is a Meath based performer. She began performing at a very young age, beginning her training with Spotlight Stage School where she was part of the Olympia Pantomime for 4 years. Aoibh is a graduate of The Gaiety School of Acting. Her musical theatre credits include Whatsername in

American Idiot the Musical and Mal in Descendants (Galway University Musical Society, 2023). She recently played Tracy in Galway University's Intervarsity production of La La Land, where she was awarded 4th Place Best Performer. Aoibh makes her professional debut with Double F Music Productions as Mary Margaret McCarthy.



Colm Lombard
Fate 1

Colm is returning to reprise his role as Fate 1. Some of his musical theatre credits include Kenickie in *Grease* (The Helix, 2018), Old Deuteronomy in *Cats* (The Helix, 2017), Caiaphas in *Jesus Chirst Superstar* (The O' Reilly Theatre, 2019), Billy Nolan in *Carrie The Musical* (The O' Reilly Theatre, 2024), and Harry the Horse in

Guys & Dolls (DCU St. Patrick's Campus). He also received a scholarship to attend the Walnut School of Performing Arts summer theatre programme in Natick, Massachusetts in 2015. Most notably Colm has been on tour with the company of Find Your Way Home where they performed in The Palace Theatre in Albany, The John Hancock Theatre in Boston, and the Symphony Space on Broadway in New York City in 2017. At the 2024 Musical Theatre Intervarsities held in the Mullingar Arts Centre, Westmeath, Colm was awarded 2nd place Best Performer for his role as Sweeney Todd in Trinity Musical Theatre's production of Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street.



Charlie Silke Fate 2

Charlie Silke is delighted to return to The Helix Venue to reprise his role as Fate 2 after performing in the 2023 production of *Most Peculiar Dreams*. Since his last performance as Fate 2, Charlie has performed in several productions including *Sióg* (Tymon Park), *Animal Farm A Musical* (Smock Alley Theatre),

Bumbledom (Theatre@36) and A Life Unpacked (The Moat Theatre, Naas). Charlie is honoured to return to the stage in the 2024 production of Most Peculiar Dreams.



Kyle Laing Bobby Collier

Kyle Laing is an actor, director, and writer from Blanchardstown. He originated the role of Bobby Collier on stage, appearing in the 2022 national tour of *Most Peculiar Dreams*; the previous production in The Helix, and his voice can be heard on the Spotify recording of the song 'Look at You'. As a student of

the TU Dublin Conservatoire of Music and Drama, Kyle has performed in Tom Fowler's *Katzenmusik* and William Shakespeare's *King Lear*. Kyle began his career playing the roles of Vince Fontaine in *Grease* (Draíocht, 2019), and Professor Callahan in *Legally Blonde* (The Helix, 2020). Following this, he portrayed Booth in a rehearsed reading of the play *The Pauliad: The Most Lamentable Tragedie of One Miss Paula Flynn* by Nathan Patterson and sung the part of Alan in John Evan's forthcoming concept album *Mothers, Daughters, Fathers, Sons.* He wrote, directed, and acted in the two act dark comedy *In,* which played to a sold out audience (Crowbar Terrace, 2023). Kyle was most recently one of the writers, directors and set designers in Ellie Henry's showcase of new works *Project 962 presents: Lost Connections* (Black Box Theatre, 2024).



Paul Nugent The Major

Paul Nugent returns to the Helix to reprise his role as The Major. He is an actor with over twenty years' experience working on stage and screen in the US, UK and Europe. His work on new musicals in New York includes *McGoldrick's Thread* (80 St Marks), *Don't Hug Me* (SoHo Playhouse) and *A Flanders and Swann House Party* (York

Theatre). Paul's Off-Broadway theatre credits include *The Field, Ladies and Gents,* and originating the role of Victor McGowan in *The McGowan Trilogy*. Recent theatre credits in Ireland includes lead roles in the world premieres of *Looking at the Sun,* Orson Welles' *Christmas Carol* and *The Gods of the Ozarks*. His on-screen credits include the award-winning film *The Long Wet Grass,* TV's *The Blacklist* (NBC) and the 2023 short film *Reunited.* His voice-over work includes narrating the acclaimed audiobook of *The Wych Elm* by Tana French, with his latest releases including the Audible series *Rockness Monsters.* Paul is also Founding Co-Artistic Director of the Dublin-based theatre company AboutFACE. Upcoming: starring in the feature *Reputation,* directing the world premiere of *The Long Way Home* at Smock Alley in August.



Niamh Carroll Annie Donnelly

Niamh is an experienced performer who has most recently appeared in Entracte's Guys & Dolls as Arvide, The Man Who Came To Dinner and the Millbank Theatre Panto. Other credits include Connie in Made in Dagenham (Coolmine - AIMS nomination for

Best Supporting Actress 2019), Mother Ireland in Coolmine's Award Winning Musical *Michael Collins* in 2018. Other roles include Caoimhe in *Across Blue Waters*, Yente in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Katisha – *Hot Mikado*, Amazing Mayzie – *Seussical*, and Miss Mona in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* where she received an AIMS nomination for Best Actress. Niamh teaches Speech & Drama at Millbank Theatre Junior Academy and at MSPA in Skerries.



Brownyn Goulding Grace Donnelly

Bronwyn joins the cast of *Most Peculiar Dreams* in the role of Grace Donnelly at The Helix. She was the winner of the Stephen Sondheim Festival Bursary, which was awarded to her by Tony Award nominee Liz Calaway in 2023. She recently played the role of Wednesday Addams in *The Addams Family* with Clane

Musical and Dramatic Society. She will be entering her final year of Drama (Performance) at the TU Dublin Conservatoire of Music and Drama this upcoming September. She was a featured solo singer in the 2024 AIMS Opening Number.



Nathan Patterson Frank

Nathan has been involved with *Most Peculiar Dreams* since 2018. He recently graduated from the Lir Academy with a BA in Acting. Credits while training in the Lir include *Bent* by Martin Sherman, *Arcadia* by Tom Stoppard, *Punk Rock* by Simon Stephens, *Absolute Hell* by Rodney Ackland, and *The Visit* by Friedrich Dürrenmatt.



Lily Kate Hearns Martha

Lily Kate is a Dublin based actress and producer. Professional Theatre credits include: Katherine in *Cailíní* (Lyric Theatre, Belfast, 2024 and Samuel Beckett Theatre, 2023), Featured Ensemble in *A Play on Ulysses, Bloomsday Festival* (2023/2024), Mayleigh in *Oliver UK/Ireland Tour* (Bord Gais Energy Theatre, 2013), Ensemble in The Snowman with the RTE Philharmonic

Orchestra (3 Arena and Bord Gais Energy Theatre 2013-15). Other previous roles include: Margaret in Carrie the Musical (O'Reilly Theatre 2024), Charity in Sweet Charity (O'Reilly Theatre, 2023), Petra in The Edelweiss Pirates (Bray One Act Festivals 2019). Lily Kate is delighted to also be the production manager for Most Peculiar Dreams. Previous producing credits include: executive producer of Trinity Musical Theatre's (TMT) Carrie The Musical (O' Reilly Theatre, 2024) as well as TMT's award winning productions of Sweeney Todd (Musical Theatre Intervarsities (MTI) Competition 2024).

Ensemble



Amy Cassidy



Colin Eiffe



Maya Gaul



Jack Hopkins



Caitlin Rose-James



Conor Lawler



Luke Reid



Carrie Strahan



Åine Winter



Charley White

Production Team

Creator Fergus Foran

Director Juliet Hill

Musical Director Ailbhe Kehoe

Choreographer Conor Lawler

Production Manager Lily Kate Hearns

Stage Manager Cameron Brady

Set Design Brett Bilyard, Luke Ingleton

Lighting Design Dillon Keane

Sound Design Mark Doyle

Costume Design Elaine Foran

Publicity Management Connie Angela McGowan

Orchestra

Arrangements Fergus Foran, Martin O'Leary

Keyboard/Piano Ailbhe Kehoe

Clarinet David Meany

Trumpet Mick Boyle

Trombone Jon Clifford

Euphonium Adam McGrath

Drums and Percussion Toby Müller

BESPOAK

Set design & build specialists



Bespoak proudly supports 'Most Peculiar Dreams' Bespoak@oakpm.ie +353 87 294 6051



Best wishes to the cast, crew and production team of Most Peculiar Dreams





Interested in becoming an investor or sponsor?

Contact Brian for more information.

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